



Superior Court of California

County of Monterey

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PRESS RELEASE

Friday, February 28, 2025

March is Civil Grand Jury Awareness Month

In an effort to raise awareness about the critical role of Civil Grand Juries in promoting justice and accountability within the community, Monterey County Superior Court is proud to announce that March has been officially declared *Civil Grand Jury Awareness Month*. This month-long observance is designed to inform the public about the essential work of civil grand juries and to encourage civic participation.

A Civil Grand Jury is a vital component of the judicial system, empowered to investigate government operations, review public programs, and ensure transparency and fairness in the administration of justice. The jury's responsibility is not only to assess and report on local government agencies and officials but also to recommend reforms that can improve the community's well-being.

Civil Grand Jury Advisor, Judge Stephanie Hulsey stated: "The Civil Grand Jury of Monterey County has a history of conducting sophisticated, in-depth reviews and investigations of local governmental operations. Its substantive reports with constructive criticisms and suggested recommendations for improved governmental operations and services has been well received by the public and governmental agencies alike. The Monterey County Superior Court is deeply appreciative to the citizens who tirelessly commit themselves to serve our community on the Civil Grand Jury."

Civil Grand Jury member 2020/2021, Tom Mastre stated: "Being a member of the Civil Grand Jury is one of the most interesting and rewarding experiences a citizen of Monterey County can have both personally and in providing service to our community. The Civil Grand Jury is able to investigate all aspects of our government in order to make suggestions and recommendations regarding improvements to policies, procedures, and processes. It is rewarding to see the positive effect of having many of those suggestions and recommendations implemented. Aside from digging into our local government, it is fun getting to know your fellow jurors. Each jury member has different life experiences and perspectives, and that diversity enriches the Civil Grand Jury experiences. If you are community minded, the Civil Grand Jury is a great way to become involved. It is a unique opportunity!"

For more information on Monterey County Civil Grand Jury

<https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/government/participate-get-involved/civil-grand-jury>

and to learn how you can contribute to the work of the Civil Grand Jury, please visit

<https://www.monterey.courts.ca.gov/general-information/grand-jury>

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